Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.14 JULY
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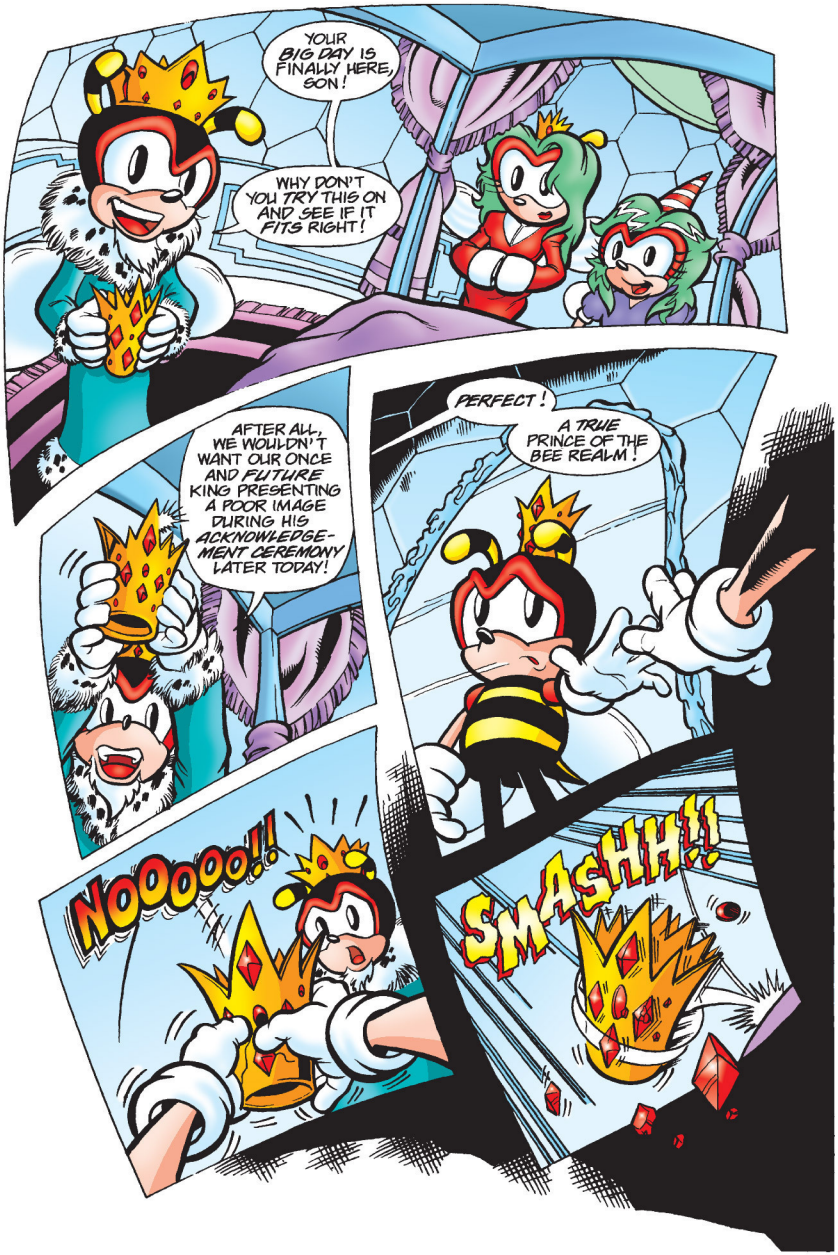
SEGA®
KNUCKLES™
THE ECHIDNA
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
46971
PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • GALAN
GROSSMAN • WILLIAMS • PEPOY
SPAZ
PENDERS

Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of the Floating Island, defender of all from the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten within, he is none other than Knuckles the Echidna!

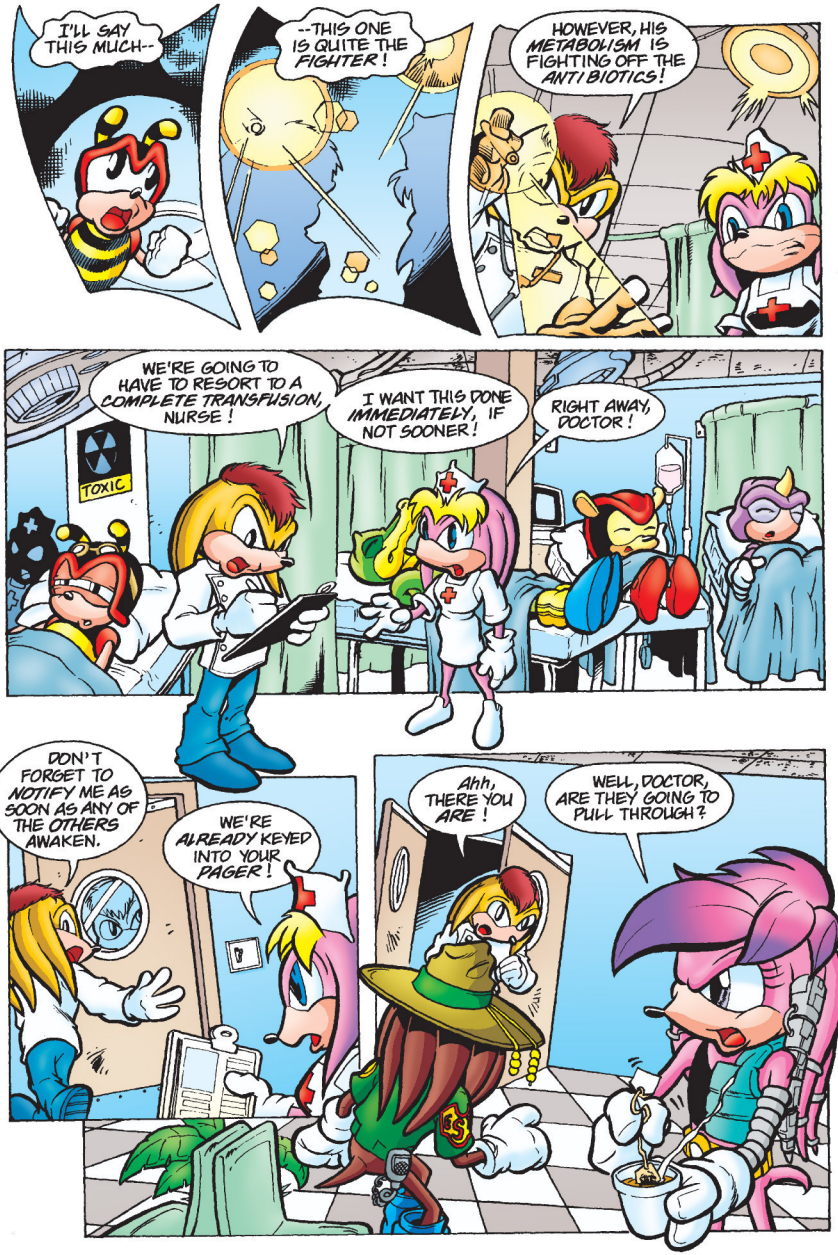
After seeing his friend, Mello, tragically fall to a fatal dose of Lemon Sundrop Dandelion poisoning, Charmy, along with his fellow Chaotix - -Espio, Mighty, Vector and their new member Julie-Su - - were assigned the task of finding out who was supplying the deadly substance, how they were contaminating the food chain with it and stop the ones responsible.

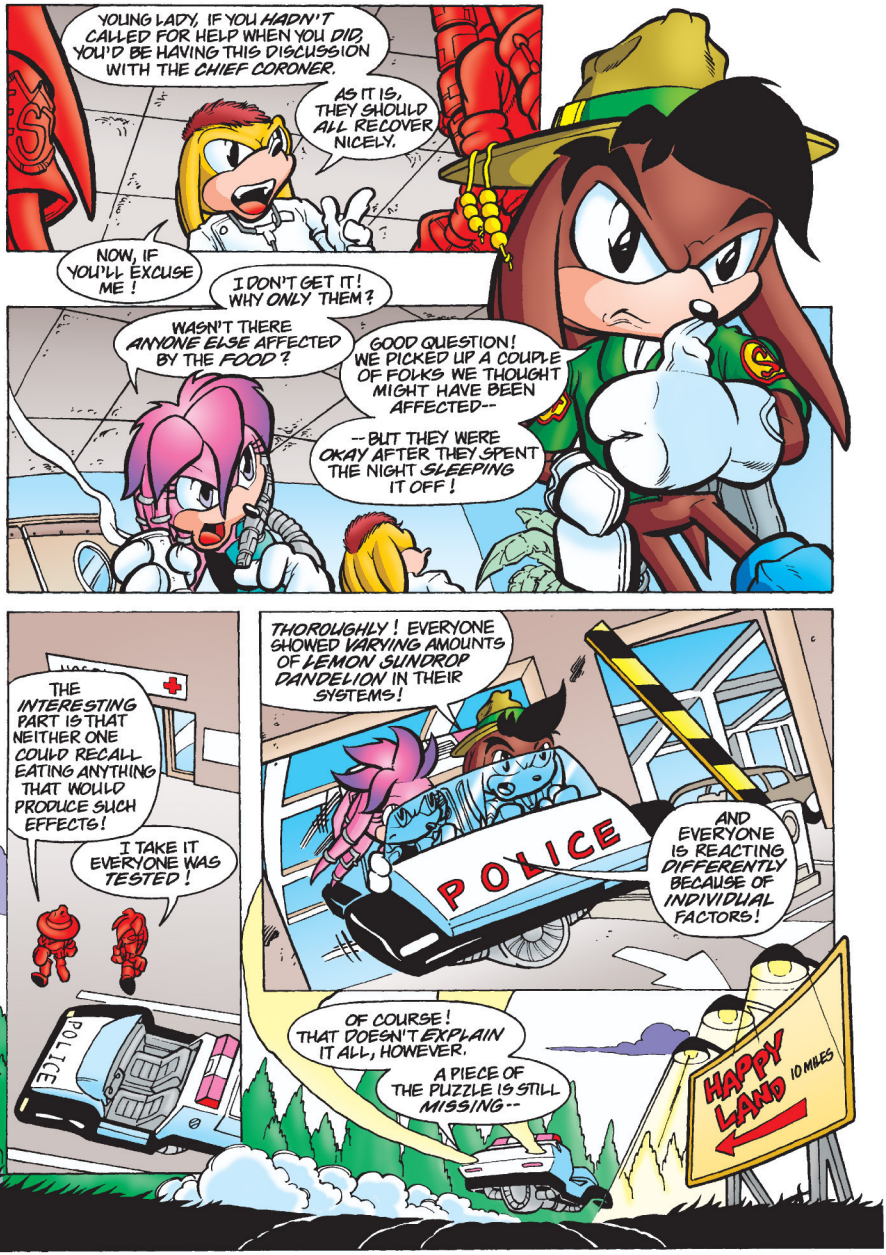
While The Chaotix carried on their mission, on the other side of Mobius, their friend Knuckles is still making his way back from the fabled land of Albion. Being pursued by a mysterious group, hidden by the glare of blinding light, Knuckles attempts to escape from his latest predicament. The Chaotix, however, are not having any luck with their current predicament as they have fallen prey to an evil villain's scheme and are suffering dearly for their carelessness...


YOUR BIG DAY IS FINALLY HERE, SON!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY THIS ON AND SEE IF IT FITS RIGHT!
AFTER ALL, WE WOULDN'T WANT OUR ONCE AND FUTURE KING PRESENTING A POOR IMAGE DURING HIS ACKNOWLEDGE-MENT CEREMONY LATER TODAY!
PERFECT!
A TRUE PRINCE OF THE BEE REALM!
NOOOOO!!
SMASHH!!

SON! HAVE YOU GONE MAD?!!
GET BACK HERE AT ONCE!!!
CHARMY! WHAT IS IT, DEAR?!
LEAVE ME ALONE!!!
WAAAAUUUUGGHHH!
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!!!!
I NEVER WANTED TO BE A PRINCE ANYWAY!!!!
THE CHAOTIX IN
A Tenuous Grip on REALITY!

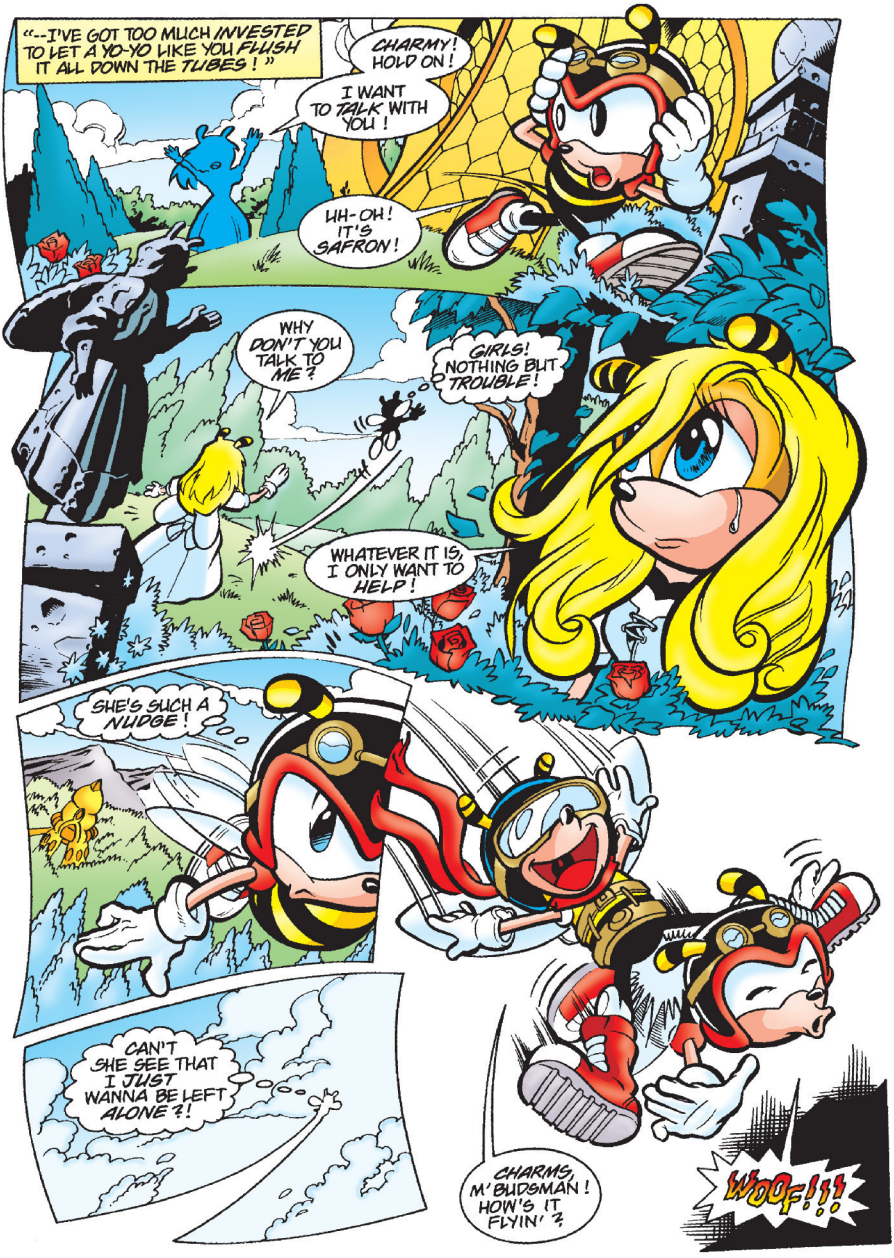
WHY DON'T YOU RUN?
HUH?
LOOK OU--
DIDN'T CARE WHERE YOU WERE GOING, DID YOU?
WHO'S THERE?
MASTER CHARMY, IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?
OH-- JEEPERS! IT'S YOU!
YOU CAN'T FACE US, CAN YOU?
YOU WANT TO RUN, DON'T YOU?
--RUN, DON'T YOU?
RUN! DON'T YOU?
RUN! DON'T YOU?
RUN!
GO AWAY!
RUN!


I'LL SAY THIS MUCH--
--THIS ONE IS QUITE THE FIGHTER!
HOWEVER, HIS METABOLISM IS FIGHTING OFF THE ANTIBIOTICS!
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO RESORT TO A COMPLETE TRANSFUSION, NURSE!
I WANT THIS DONE IMMEDIATELY, IF NOT SOONER!
RIGHT AWAY, DOCTOR!
TOXIC
DON'T FORGET TO NOTIFY ME AS SOON AS ANY OF THE OTHERS AWAKEN.
WE'RE ALREADY KEYED INTO YOUR PAGER!
Ahh, THERE YOU ARE!
WELL, DOCTOR, ARE THEY GOING TO PULL THROUGH?

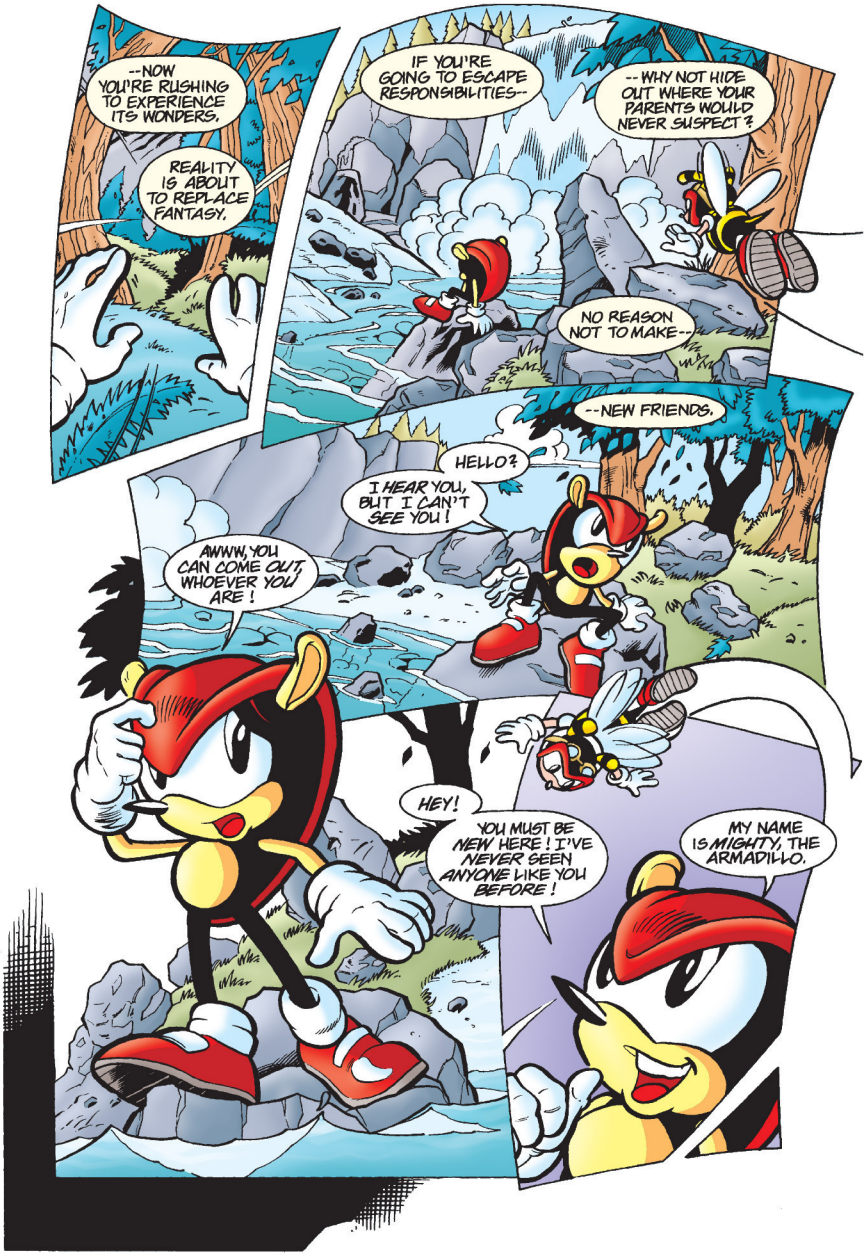

YOUNG LADY, IF YOU HADN'T CALLED FOR HELP WHEN YOU DID, YOU'D BE HAVING THIS DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF CORONER.
AS IT IS, THEY SHOULD ALL RECOVER NICELY.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!
I DON'T GET IT! WHY ONLY THEM?
WASN'T THERE ANYONE ELSE AFFECTED BY THE FOOD?
GOOD QUESTION! WE PICKED UP A COUPLE OF FOLKS WE THOUGHT MIGHT HAVE BEEN AFFECTED--
--BUT THEY WERE OKAY AFTER THEY SPENT THE NIGHT SLEEPING IT OFF!
THE INTERESTING PART IS THAT NEITHER ONE COULD RECALL EATING ANYTHING THAT WOULD PRODUCE SUCH EFFECTS!
I TAKE IT EVERYONE WAS TESTED!
POLICE
THOROUGHLY! EVERYONE SHOWED VARYING AMOUNTS OF LEMON SUNDROP DANDELION IN THEIR SYSTEMS!
POLICE
AND EVERYONE IS REACTING DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE OF INDIVIDUAL FACTORS!
OF COURSE! THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN IT ALL, HOWEVER.
A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE IS STILL MISSING--
HAPPY LAND
10 MILES

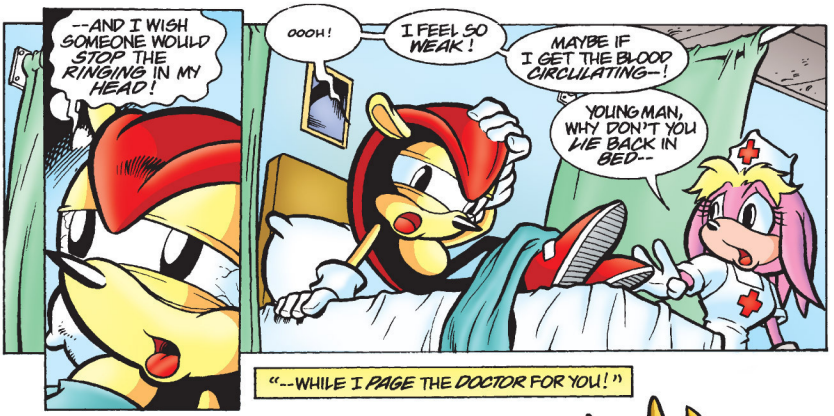
"--AND I'M BETTING THE ANSWERS ARE IN HAPPYLAND!"
LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE, MISTER RABBIT!
MISTER RENFIELD, EITHER YOU'RE A LOT STUPIDER THAN YOU LOOK, OR A LOT GREEDIER THAN YOU SHOULD BE!
FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SPECIAL SAUCE YOU USE ON THE CHILI DOGS YOU SELL...
WHAT OF IT?
YOU'RE USING WAAAAAAY MORE THAN IS REQUIRED!
THAT'S PRETTY POTENT STUFF!
SO POTENT, IN FACT--
--THAT INSTEAD OF CUSTOMERS WANTING MORE PRODUCT--
--YOU'RE KILLING THE MARKET!
REALLY? MY CHILI DOG SALES HAVE NEVER BEEN HEALTHIER!
EXCEPT FOR THAT INCIDENT YESTERDAY, WE HAVEN'T RECEIVED ONE COMPLAINT!*
THE PAYING CUSTOMERS WANT EXTRA SAUCE--
--I SAY LET 'EM HAVE IT THEIR WAY!
* RENFIELD IS REFERRING TO LAST STORY'S CLIFFHANGER-- EDITOR
ASK MY PAL, RIPPER, HERE!
IF YOU HAVEN'T HAD YOUR BREAK TODAY--

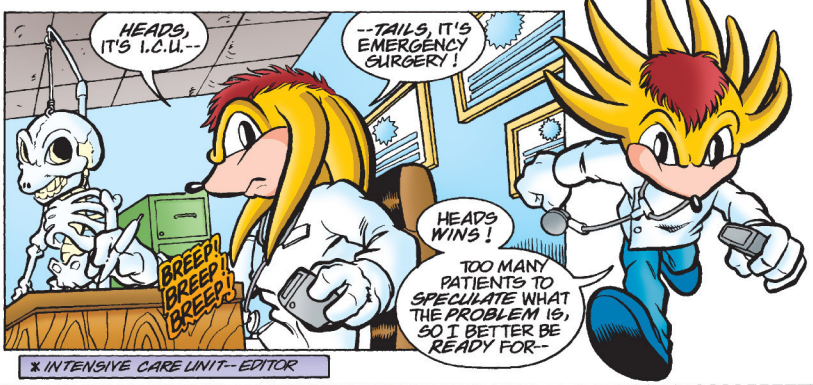
--HE'LL MAKE SURE YOU WILL!
NOW TAKE A HIKE!
I GUESS THAT'S IT, THEN, EH--
--BLACKJACK!
WHAAM
BAAM!
HMF!
YOU WRETCHED RODENT!!! YOU'VE GOT NERVE TELLING ME WHAT'S WHAT!
AWWWP!
YOU WANNA DRAW ANOTHER BREATH, THIS IS THE WAY IT'S GOING DOWN!
I SHIP YOU THE SAUCE, AND YOU ONLY PUT A LITTLE ON!
GIVE 'EM A TASTE SO THEY BEG FOR MORE!
YOU WORK FOR ME NOW, SO YOU DON'T CHARGE A THING--YET!
BASIC LAWS OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND, BABE--

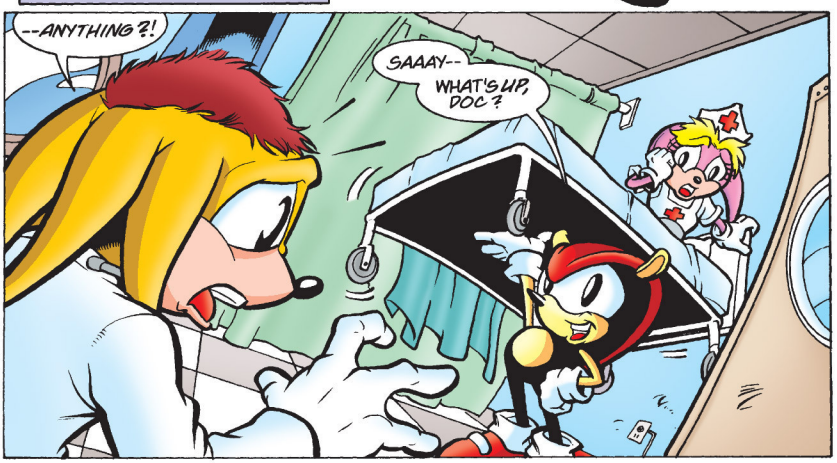

"--I'VE GOT TOO MUCH INVESTED TO LET A YO-YO LIKE YOU FLUSH IT ALL DOWN THE TUBES!"
CHARMY! HOLD ON!
I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU!
UH-OH! IT'S SAFRON!
WHY DON'T YOU TALK TO ME?
GIRLS! NOTHING BUT TROUBLE!
WHATEVER IT IS, I ONLY WANT TO HELP!
SHE'S SUCH A NUDGE!
CAN'T SHE SEE THAT I JUST WANNA BE LEFT ALONE?!
CHARMS, M'BUDSMAN! HOW'S IT FLYIN'?
WOOF!!!

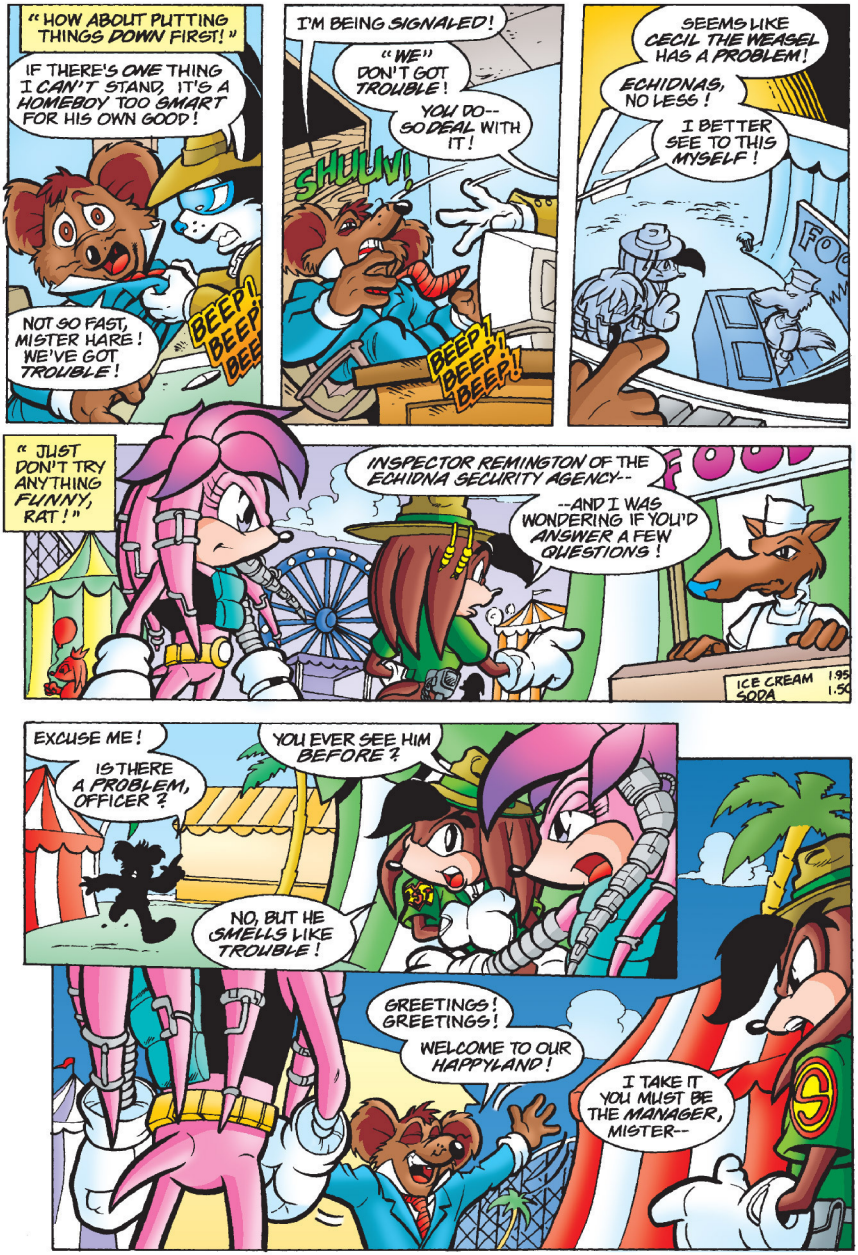
IT'S MY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CEREMONY!
OH, THAT!
NOBODY ASKS ME IF THIS IS WHAT I WANT! I'M JUST EXPECTED TO GO ALONG!
YEAH! I HEAR THE SAME JAZZ FROM MY DAD!
HE'S ALWAYS SAYING I CAN'T ALWAYS DO WHAT I WANT!
I NEED TO SOLO FOR AWHILE, MELLO!
WHERE SHOULD I CATCH UP WITH YOU, CHARM?
I THINK I'LL CHECK OUT THE FLOATING ISLAND!
DON'T TELL ANYONE, OKAY?
MY LIPS ARE SEALED! LATER!
YOU'VE OFTEN WONDERED ABOUT THAT FABLED LAND SOARING THROUGH THE SKIES.
AND NOW--
THE FLOATING ISLAND.
YOU'VE SEEN IT FLY OVERHEAD MANY TIMES.

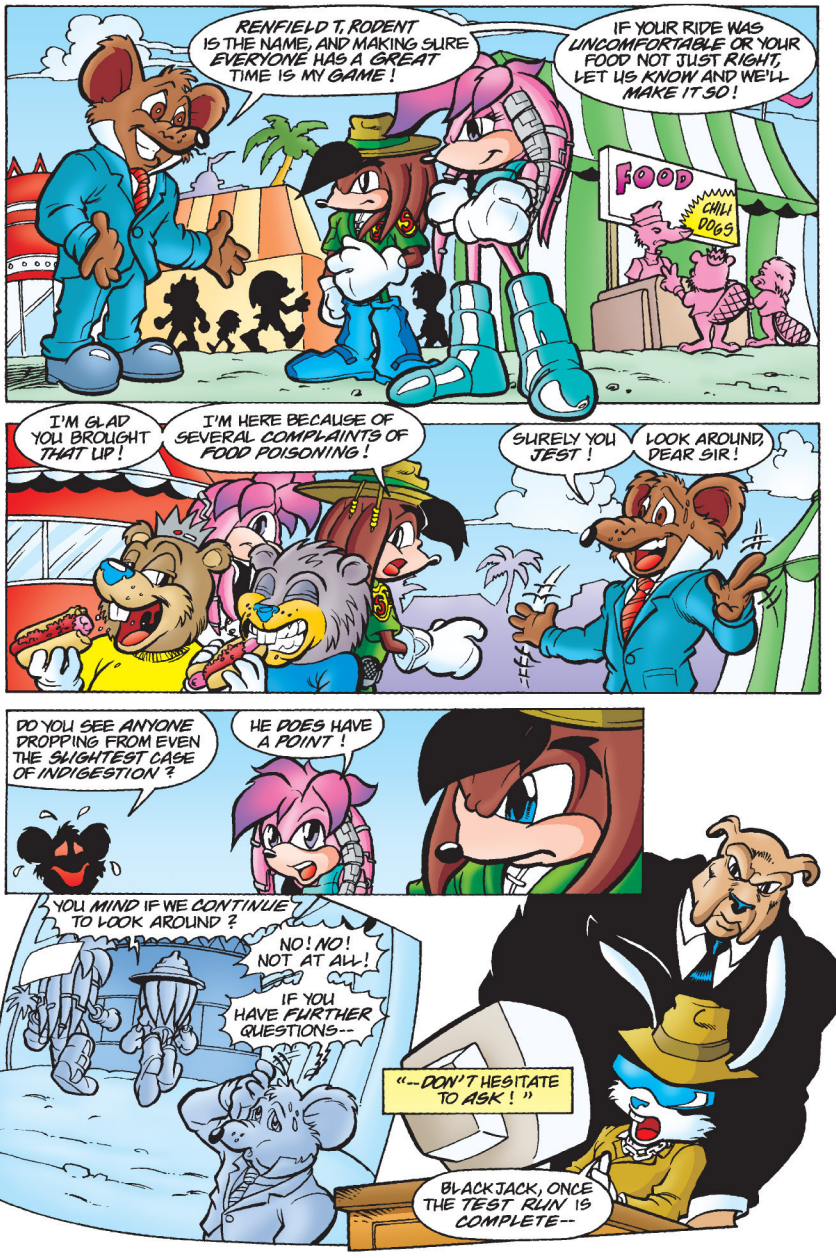

--NOW YOU'RE RUSHING TO EXPERIENCE ITS WONDERS.
REALITY IS ABOUT TO REPLACE FANTASY.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO ESCAPE RESPONSIBILITIES--
-- WHY NOT HIDE OUT WHERE YOUR PARENTS WOULD NEVER SUSPECT?
NO REASON NOT TO MAKE--
--NEW FRIENDS.
HELLO?
I HEAR YOU, BUT I CAN'T SEE YOU!
AWWW, YOU CAN COME OUT, WHOEVER YOU ARE!
HEY!
YOU MUST BE NEW HERE! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE LIKE YOU BEFORE!
MY NAME IS MIGHTY, THE ARMADILLO.


--AND I WISH SOMEONE WOULD STOP THE RINGING IN MY HEAD!
OOOH!
I FEEL SO WEAK!
MAYBE IF I GET THE BLOOD CIRCULATING--!
YOUNG MAN, WHY DON'T YOU LIE BACK IN BED--
"--WHILE I PAGE THE DOCTOR FOR YOU!"

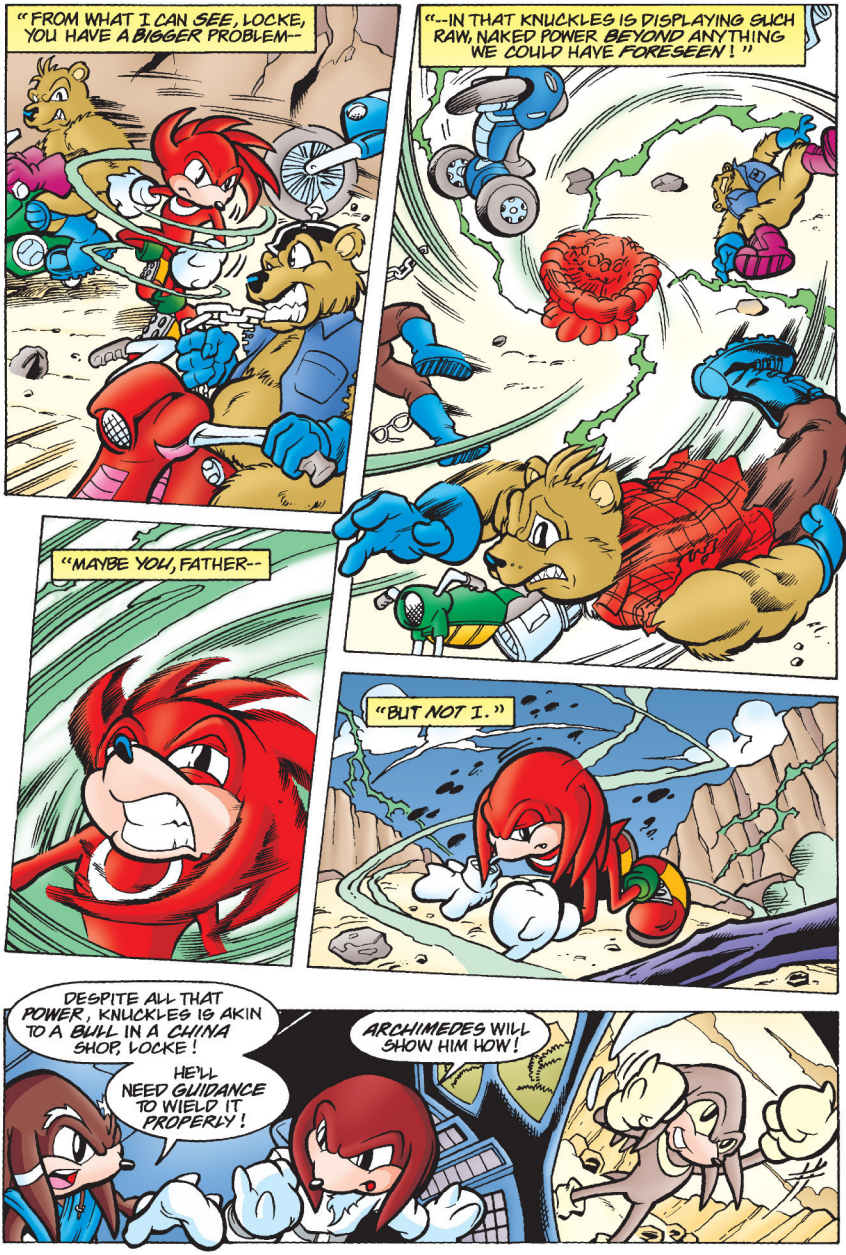

HEADS, IT'S I.C.U.--
--TAILS, IT'S EMERGENCY SURGERY!
BREEP! BREEP! BREEP!
HEADS WINS!
TOO MANY PATIENTS TO SPECULATE WHAT THE PROBLEM IS, SO I BETTER BE READY FOR--
* INTENSIVE CARE UNIT-- EDITOR

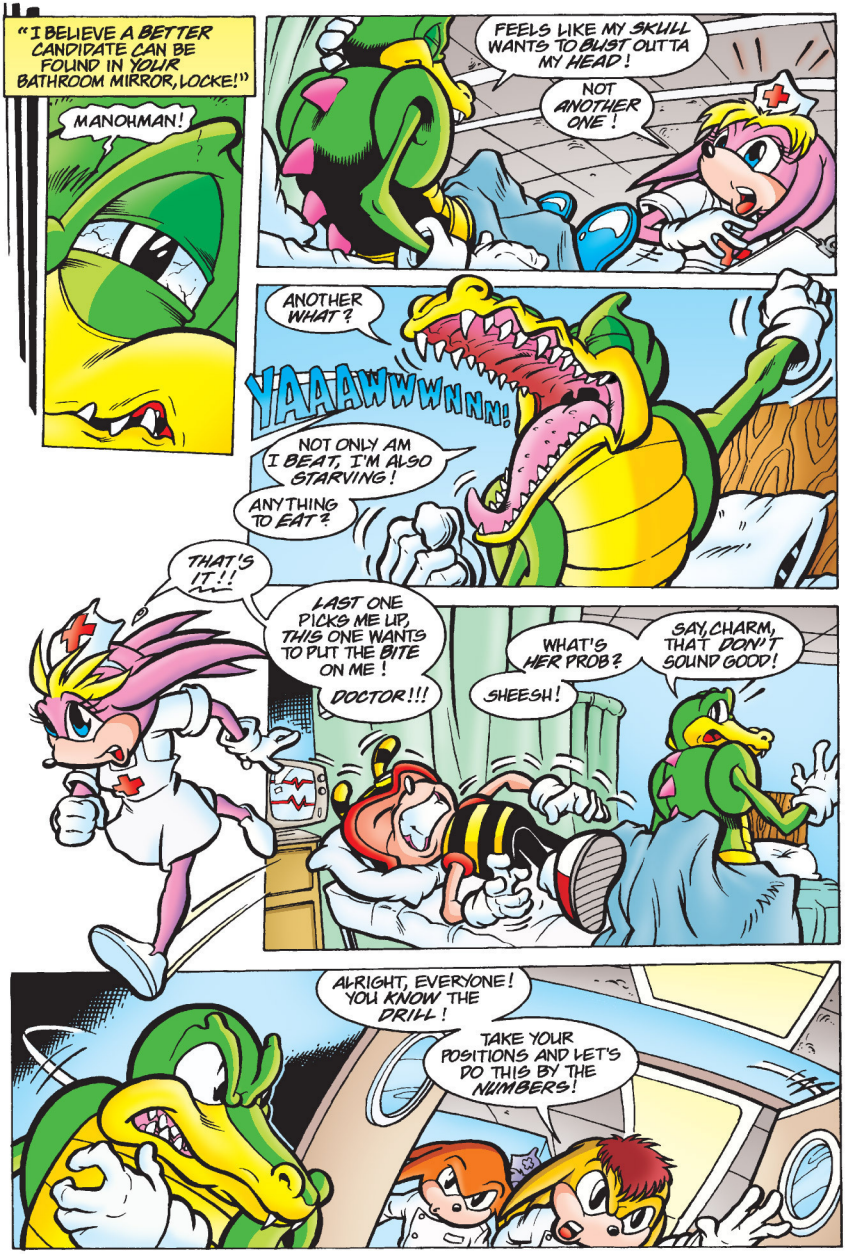

--ANYTHING?!
SAAAY--
WHAT'S UP, DOC?

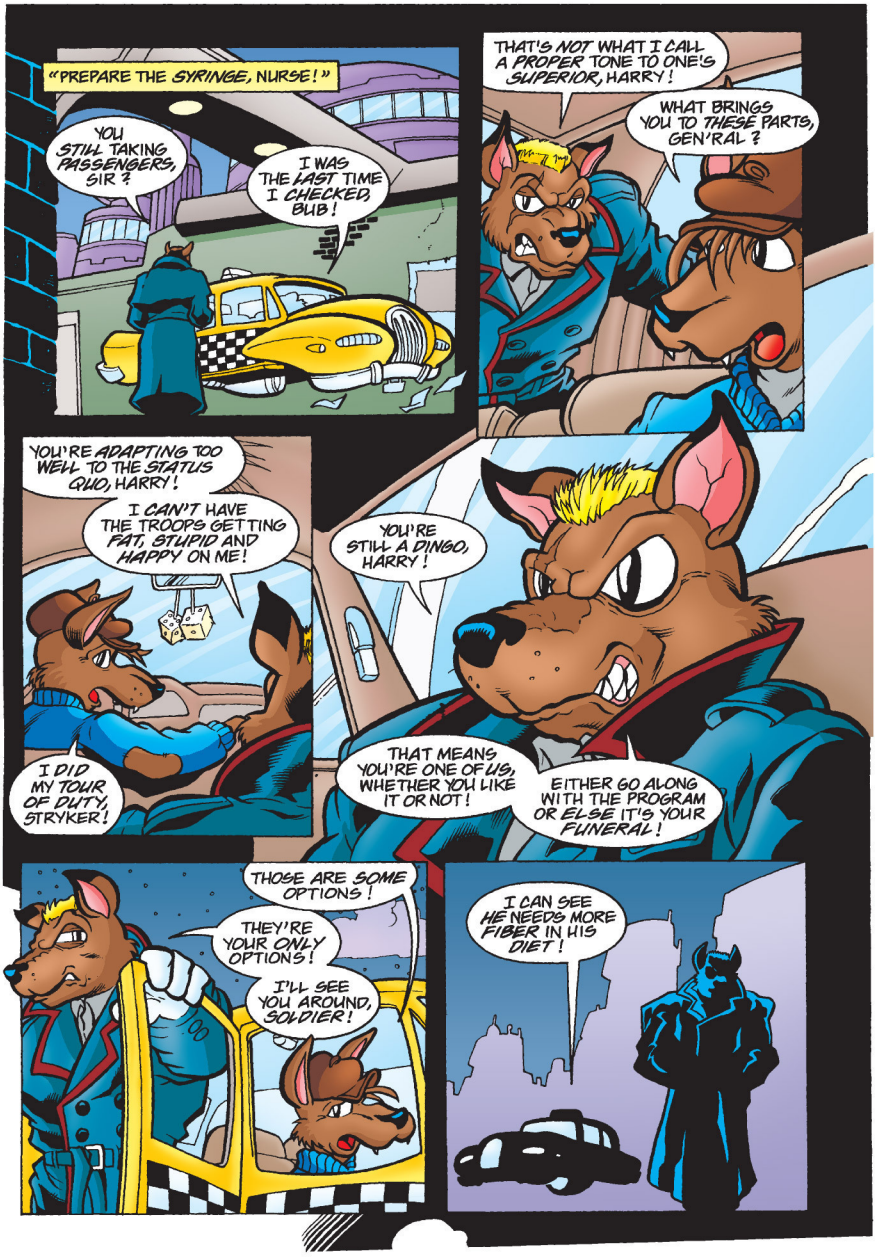

"HOW ABOUT PUTTING THINGS DOWN FIRST!"
IF THERE'S ONE THING I CAN'T STAND, IT'S A HOMEBOY TOO SMART FOR HIS OWN GOOD!
NOT SO FAST, MISTER HARE! WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
BEEP! BEEP! BEE
I'M BEING SIGNALED!
"WE" DON'T GOT TROUBLE!
YOU DO-- SO DEAL WITH IT!
SHUUV!
BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!
SEEMS LIKE CECIL THE WEASEL HAS A PROBLEM!
ECHIDNAS, NO LESS!
I BETTER SEE TO THIS MYSELF!
"JUST DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY, RAT!"
INSPECTOR REMINGTON OF THE ECHIDNA SECURITY AGENCY--
--AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS!
ICE CREAM SODA
EXCUSE ME!
IS THERE A PROBLEM, OFFICER?
YOU EVER SEE HIM BEFORE?
NO, BUT HE SMELLS LIKE TROUBLE!
GREETINGS! GREETINGS!
WELCOME TO OUR HAPPYLAND!
I TAKE IT YOU MUST BE THE MANAGER, MISTER--

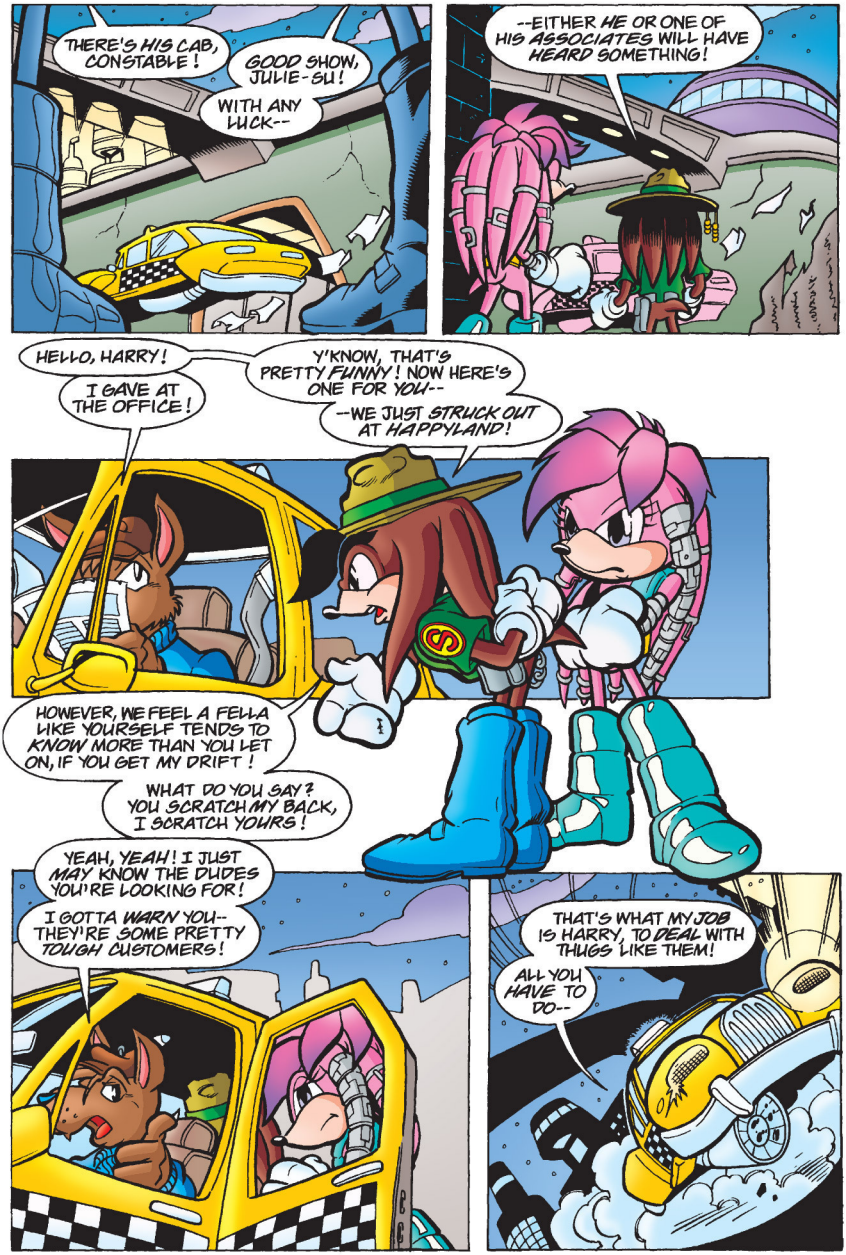

RENFIELD T. RODENT IS THE NAME, AND MAKING SURE EVERYONE HAS A GREAT TIME IS MY GAME!
IF YOUR RIDE WAS UNCOMFORTABLE OR YOUR FOOD NOT JUST RIGHT, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL MAKE IT SO!
FOOD
CHILI DOGS
I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT THAT UP!
I'M HERE BECAUSE OF SEVERAL COMPLAINTS OF FOOD POISONING!
SURELY YOU JEST!
LOOK AROUND, DEAR SIR!
DO YOU SEE ANYONE DROPPING FROM EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CASE OF INDIGESTION?
HE DOES HAVE A POINT!
YOU MIND IF WE CONTINUE TO LOOK AROUND?
NO! NO! NOT AT ALL!
IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS--
"--DON'T HESITATE TO ASK!"
BLACKJACK, ONCE THE TEST RUN IS COMPLETE--

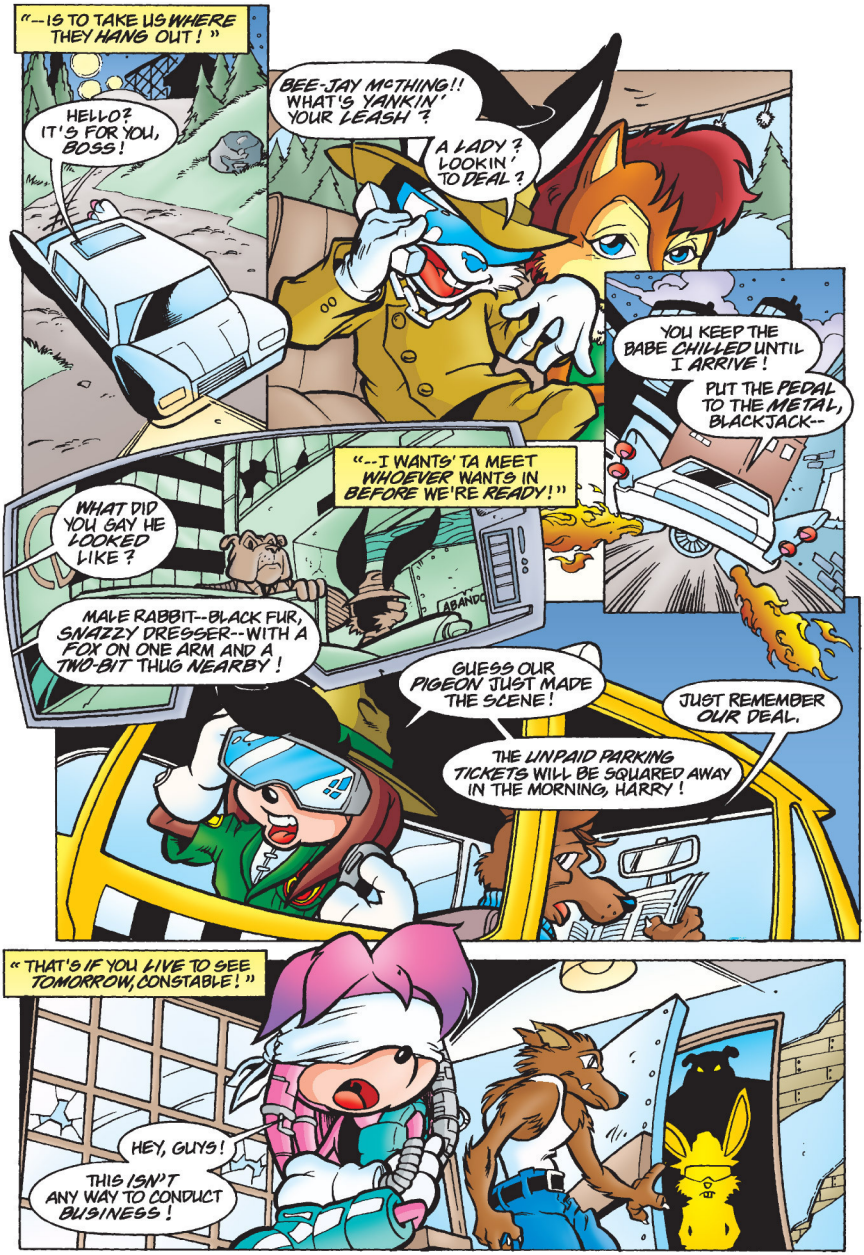
"--SEE TO IT THAT THE RODENT IS DEEP-SIXED!"
THE FAT'S IN THE FIRE NOW, LOCKE!
KNUCKLES HAS APPARENTLY LEARNED MORE THAN WE THOUGHT DURING HIS TIME WITH ATHAIR, FATHER!
HOW MUCH REMAINS TO BE SEEN!
THAT'S QUITE SOME SPECTACLE HE'S PUTTING ON!
THAT BEAR PACK QUITE OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T BARGAIN ON WHAT THEY GOT!
NO ARGUMENT THERE!
WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IS IF KNUCKLES IS OPERATING ON INSTINCT--
"--OR DOES HE POSSESS THE CAPABILITY TO PROPERLY CHANNEL HIS ABILITIES?"

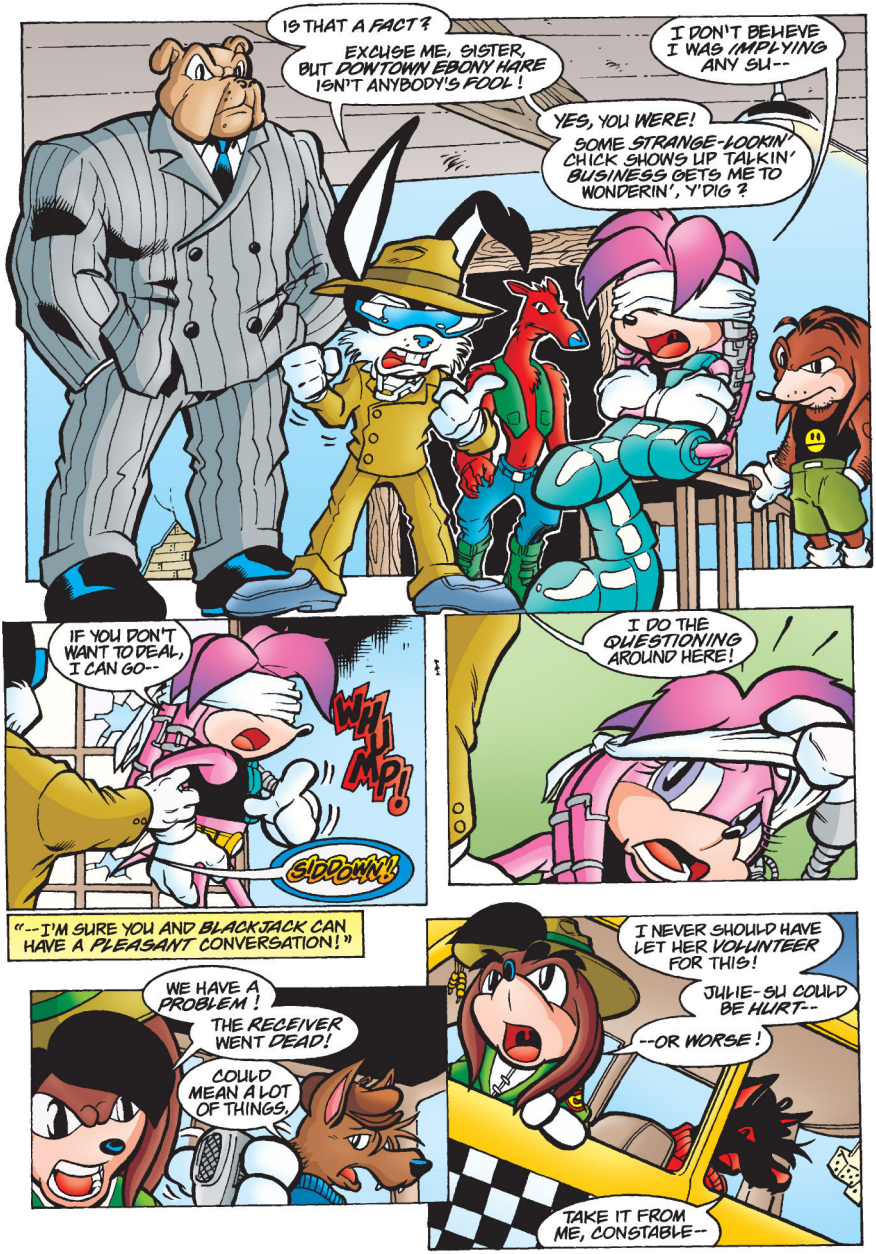

"FROM WHAT I CAN SEE, LOCKE, YOU HAVE A BIGGER PROBLEM--
"--IN THAT KNUCKLES IS DISPLAYING SUCH RAW, NAKED POWER BEYOND ANYTHING WE COULD HAVE FORESEEN!"
"MAYBE YOU, FATHER--
"BUT NOT I."
DESPITE ALL THAT POWER, KNUCKLES IS AKIN TO A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP, LOCKE!
HE'LL NEED GUIDANCE TO WIELD IT PROPERLY!
ARCHIMEDES WILL SHOW HIM HOW!


"I BELIEVE A BETTER CANDIDATE CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR BATHROOM MIRROR, LOCKE!"
MANOHMAN!
FEELS LIKE MY SKULL WANTS TO BUST OUTTA MY HEAD!
NOT ANOTHER ONE!
ANOTHER WHAT?
YAAAWWWNNN!
NOT ONLY AM I BEAT, I'M ALSO STARVING!
ANYTHING TO EAT?
THAT'S IT!!
LAST ONE PICKS ME UP, THIS ONE WANTS TO PUT THE BITE ON ME!
DOCTOR!!!
WHAT'S HER PROB?
SHEESH!
SAY, CHARM, THAT DON'T SOUND GOOD!
ALRIGHT, EVERYONE! YOU KNOW THE DRILL!
TAKE YOUR POSITIONS AND LET'S DO THIS BY THE NUMBERS!


"PREPARE THE SYRINGE, NURSE!"
YOU STILL TAKING PASSENGERS, SIR?
I WAS THE LAST TIME I CHECKED, BUB!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I CALL A PROPER TONE TO ONE'S SUPERIOR, HARRY!
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THESE PARTS, GEN'RAL?
YOU'RE ADAPTING TOO WELL TO THE STATUS QUO, HARRY!
I CAN'T HAVE THE TROOPS GETTING FAT, STUPID AND HAPPY ON ME!
I DID MY TOUR OF DUTY, STRYKER!
YOU'RE STILL A DINGO, HARRY!
THAT MEANS YOU'RE ONE OF US, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
EITHER GO ALONG WITH THE PROGRAM OR ELSE IT'S YOUR FUNERAL!
THOSE ARE SOME OPTIONS!
THEY'RE YOUR ONLY OPTIONS!
I'LL SEE YOU AROUND, SOLDIER!
I CAN SEE HE NEEDS MORE FIBER IN HIS DIET!


THERE'S HIS CAB, CONSTABLE!
GOOD SHOW, JULIE-SU!
WITH ANY LUCK--
--EITHER HE OR ONE OF HIS ASSOCIATES WILL HAVE HEARD SOMETHING!
HELLO, HARRY!
I GAVE AT THE OFFICE!
Y'KNOW, THAT'S PRETTY FUNNY! NOW HERE'S ONE FOR YOU--
--WE JUST STRUCK OUT AT HAPPYLAND!
HOWEVER, WE FEEL A FELLA LIKE YOURSELF TENDS TO KNOW MORE THAN YOU LET ON, IF YOU GET MY DRIFT!
WHAT DO YOU SAY? YOU SCRATCH MY BACK, I SCRATCH YOURS!
YEAH, YEAH! I JUST MAY KNOW THE DUDES YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
I GOTTA WARN YOU-- THEY'RE SOME PRETTY TOUGH CUSTOMERS!
THAT'S WHAT MY JOB IS HARRY, TO DEAL WITH THUGS LIKE THEM!
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO--


"--IS TO TAKE US WHERE THEY HANG OUT!"
HELLO? IT'S FOR YOU, BOSS!
BEE-JAY MCTHING!! WHAT'S YANKIN' YOUR LEASH?
A LADY? LOOKIN' TO DEAL?
YOU KEEP THE BABE CHILLED UNTIL I ARRIVE!
PUT THE PEDAL TO THE METAL, BLACKJACK--
"--I WANTS' TA MEET WHOEVER WANTS IN BEFORE WE'RE READY!"
WHAT DID YOU SAY HE LOOKED LIKE?
MALE RABBIT--BLACK FUR, SNAZZY DRESSER--WITH A FOX ON ONE ARM AND A TWO-BIT THUG NEARBY!
GUESS OUR PIGEON JUST MADE THE SCENE!
JUST REMEMBER OUR DEAL.
THE UNPAID PARKING TICKETS WILL BE SQUARED AWAY IN THE MORNING, HARRY!
"THAT'S IF YOU LIVE TO SEE TOMORROW, CONSTABLE!"
HEY, GUYS!
THIS ISN'T ANY WAY TO CONDUCT BUSINESS!


IS THAT A FACT?
EXCUSE ME, SISTER, BUT DOWNTOWN EBONY HARE ISN'T ANYBODY'S FOOL!
I DON'T BELIEVE I WAS IMPLYING ANY SU--
YES, YOU WERE! SOME STRANGE-LOOKIN' CHICK SHOWS UP TALKIN' BUSINESS GETS ME TO WONDERIN', Y'DIG?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DEAL, I CAN GO--
WHAM!
SLOOWN!
I DO THE QUESTIONING AROUND HERE!
"--I'M SURE YOU AND BLACKJACK CAN HAVE A PLEASANT CONVERSATION!"
WE HAVE A PROBLEM!
THE RECEIVER WENT DEAD!
COULD MEAN A LOT OF THINGS,
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HER VOLUNTEER FOR THIS!
JULIE-SU COULD BE HURT--
--OR WORSE!
TAKE IT FROM ME, CONSTABLE--

"--THAT'S ONE TOUGH COOKIE WHO CAN HANDLE HERSELF IN A TIGHT SITUATION!"
LET'S SEE YOU TALK YOUR WAY OUTTA THIS!
WAIIIITTTT!!
TO BE CONCLUDED...